

Remarks

Amendments

Claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 10-12, 14-18, 20, 25, 27, 28, 30 and 32-34 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. No new matter is introduced by this amendment.

Response to Restriction Requirement

The Office Action has required restriction to one of the following Groups of claims:

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| Group I | Claims 1-7 and 33-34, drawn to a biosensor, classified in class 435, subclass 287.1. |
| Group II | Claims 8-27, drawn to an anchor molecule and conjugate, classified in class 435, subclass 4. |
| Group III | Claims 28-29, drawn to a method of production of a sensor, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1. |
| Group IV | (stated to be group V in the Restriction Requirement) Claims 30-32, drawn to a method for detecting an interaction, classified in class 435, subclass 6. |

Applicants hereby elect Group II, claims 8-27, with traverse.

Restriction between Groups I and II is stated in the Office Action to be justified because these groups are related as “combination and subcombination,” and that the combination does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed. It is respectfully submitted that this characterization of the relationship of these groups is not accurate, because all of the features of the subcombination (claim 8) appear in the combination (claim 1). Because the two way test has not been satisfied, examination of Group I together with elected Group II is earnestly solicited.

Restriction between Groups II and III is stated in the Office Action to be justified because these groups are unrelated. It is respectfully submitted that this characterization of the relationship of these groups is not accurate, because the claims of these two groups all relate to the same anchor molecule. Group III defines application of a solution of the ligand on spatially separate sections of the sensor surface having the specific anchor molecule of Group II. Group II

also includes claims on the method of making the ligand-anchor conjugate. Because of the relatedness of these groups, examination of Group II together with elected Group II is earnestly solicited.

Restriction between Groups IV and II and III is stated in the Office Action to be justified because these groups are unrelated. The Office Action goes on to state that Group IV is drawn to a method for detecting an interaction, which is a different function than the methods of Groups II (method of making the ligand-anchor conjugate) and III (method of applying a solution of the ligand on spatially separate sections of the sensor surface). Further, restriction between Groups IV and I is stated to be justified because these groups are related as process and apparatus for its practice. It is respectfully submitted that the groups as identified contain a sufficient commonality of subject matter that they should be examined together. A search regarding the subject matter of one group would necessitate consideration of subject matter relevant to the other groups. Further, the public interest is best served by early resolution of all patentability issues. An efficient prosecution of all subject matter in a single application thus would serve the interests of the applicant and the Patent Office, and especially would serve the best interest of public.

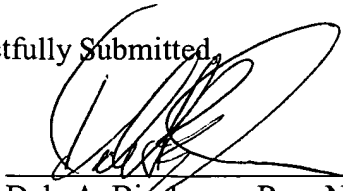
Conclusion

In view of the above election, amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims and the present application are now in condition for allowance. Approval of the application and allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited. In the event that a phone conference between the Examiner and the Applicant's undersigned attorney would help resolve any issues in the application, the Examiner is invited to contact said attorney at (651) 275-9811.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: September 8, 2003

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